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By this Amendment, a "Cross-Reference to Related Application" section has been added to claim priority as a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Patent No. 10/139,477. No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

In Paper No. 16, the Examiner has allowed claims 20, 22 and 23, and has rejected claims 1, 2, 11, 12, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,410,173 of Arfsten, *et al.* ("the '173 patent"). The Examiner argues that the '173 patent teaches an antireflection coating including an inner layer, a middle layer, and an outer layer, in which the inner layer has an index of refraction of from about 1.54 to about 1.90 and comprises at least one first oxide of a metal selected from niobium and a second oxide selected from silicon and aluminum. The middle layer allegedly has an index of refraction of at least about 1.90 and may comprise niobium oxide in addition to other high index of refraction materials. The Examiner contends that each layer is formed by sol-gel. Finally, the Examiner argues, regarding claims 11 and 19, that the substrate may be float-glass, which is also the claimed substrate. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as follows.

By this Amendment, a priority claim has been added to the present application such that it is now a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/139,477, filed May 6, 2002, which is a divisional application of the '173 patent. A substitute Declaration (unsigned) is being filed herewith to correct the priority. A signed Declaration will be filed shortly. Accordingly, since the present application is now a continuation application of the '173 patent, the '173 patent (the parent) is no longer prior art against the present application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the preceding Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record and in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

By:


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Enclosure: Substitute Declaration and Power of Attorney